(b) if so, the details of the relevant provisions under which this is done; and

(c) the details of Principals of Kendirya Vidyalayas of Bhopal Region suspended under such situations, during 2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) The officers of the Government and its instrumentalities are suspended only if their suspension is considered absolutely necessary for keeping them away from the office for fair and unhindered departmental action against them if any. It is not mandatory to necessarily place officers under suspension merely on the basis of the raids by CBI.

(c) No Principal of Bhopal Region was placed under suspension during the year 2001.

Development of Sanskrit in A.P.

1003. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing Central plan schemes to develop and popularise Sanskrit in Andhra Pradesh as the language is very near to Telugu, the main language of the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) Government has taken several steps to promote Sanskrit Education in the Country including Andhra Pradesh.

Under the Central Plan Scheme for the development of Sanskrit education through the State Governments, financial assistance is given to Sanskrit pandits in indigent circumstances, scholarships are provided to Sanskrit students, facilities provided for teaching Sanskrit in schools, assistance given for the modernization of Sanskrit Pathshalas and grants given to State Governments for various promotional schemes for Sanskrit.

Government also honours eminent Sanskrit scholars every year

with its President's Award of the Certificate of Honour. From this year onward, Government has also instituted, as an encouragement to younger scholars, the Maharshi Badryan Vyas Samman Awards for 3 scholars in the age—group of 30—40.

Government has set up the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, an autonomous organization for the promotion of Sanskrit. It imparts Sanskrit studies up to doctorate level in its 8 Kendriya Sanskrit Vidyapeethas and 21 Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya/Shodh Sansthans. It also provides financial assistance under various other schemes for Sanskrit.

Government has set up two deemed Sanskrit Universities, the Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha at New Delhi and Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha at Tirupati. They provide degree, diploma and Ph.D courses. The degree certificates issued by the two Vidyapeethas are recognized by the Central Government for the purpose of employment and all defence establishments for the recruitment of religious teachers and the degree certificates are recognized at par with all Universities except Delhi University and that of Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati are recognized by 27 Universities at present.

Government has also set up the Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Prathishthan, Ujjain. It promotes the preservation, conservation and development of Vedic studies and research.

Numerous Central and other Universities and schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education offer Sanskrit courses. University Grants Commission (UGC) also has a special Assistance Programme for Sanskrit.

Recently, the UGC has formulated a Scheme for the promotion of Sanskrit. It has decided, in principle, to set up simple Sanskrit speaking centers in selected universities so that those interested in Sanskrit are benefited. Details of funds released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the development of Sanskrit Education are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

The funds sanctioned to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years by the Central Government under the Central Plan.

Year	Amount released *(Rs. in lakhs)*
1999-2000	08.73
2000-2001	24.99
2001-2002 (Upto February, 2002)	09.00

Besides, the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, an autonomous organization under this Department, has sanctioned the following amounts to the Voluntary Sanskrit Organisations in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Year	Amount released *(Rs. in lakhs)*
1999-2001	17.06
2000-2002	19.15
2001-2002 (Upto February, 2002)	22.40

Remunerative prices of farmers produce

1004. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are prospects of excellent rabi crop in 2001-2002, surprising even 1999-2000 peak of 209 million tonnes if so, whether adequate steps being taken to safeguard the interests of farmers with regard to remunerative price of their produce, so that past unfortunate incidents of farmers taking desperate steps like suicide do not occur; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) As against the production of 104.92 million tonnes of food grains during 1999-2000 rabi season, as per the second Advance Estimates the food grains production is likely to be 100.72 million tonnes during the rabi 2001-02. The production of rabi oilseeds is likely to fall from 82.3 lakh tonnes in